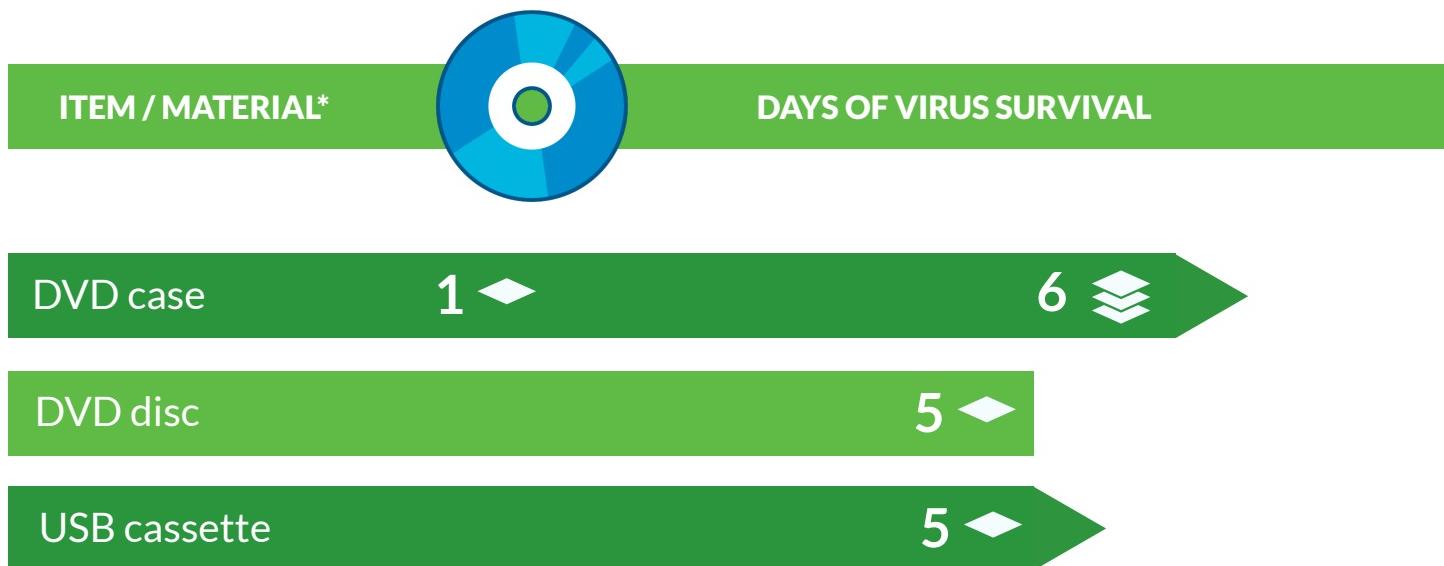


# How long the virus survives on media



 Item tested in a stacked configuration.

 Item tested in an unstacked configuration.

 Item showed trace amount of virus after testing.

\* For more information about the items and materials tested, please visit [oc.lc/realm-project](http://oc.lc/realm-project).

# Understanding the results

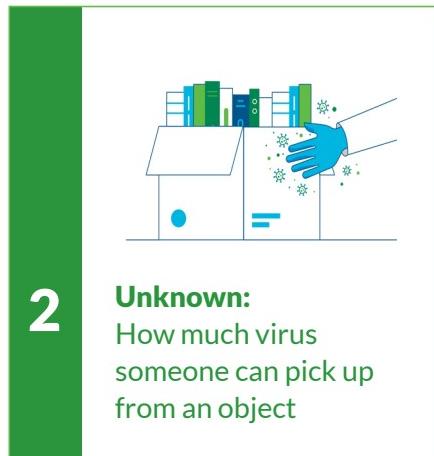
**REopening Archives, Libraries, and Museums (REALM)** is a research partnership between OCLC, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and Battelle. It is conducting research on how long the COVID-19 virus survives on materials that are prevalent in libraries, archives, and museums. This document covers results related to books and paper.

## The “known unknowns”

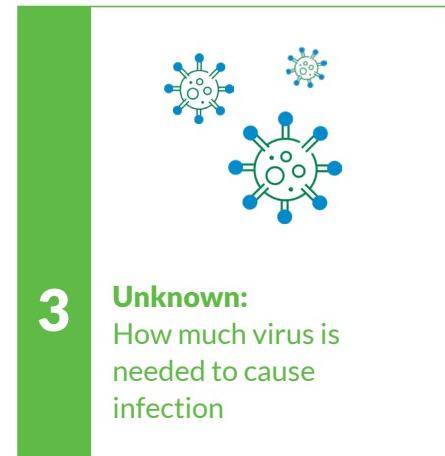
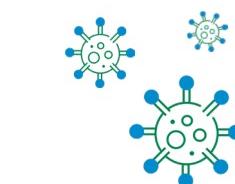
Knowledge about the new coronavirus and COVID-19 is still emerging from the scientific community. Keep the following “known unknowns” in mind when interpreting and applying REALM data.

**1**

**Unknown:**  
How much virus an infected person will leave on an object

**2**

**Unknown:**  
How much virus someone can pick up from an object

**3**

**Unknown:**  
How much virus is needed to cause infection

## How testing works

Infectious virus is applied to materials and then measured at selected time points to capture the drop in total virus. Some materials still showed trace amounts of viable virus at the final testing time point.

REALM is testing a wide variety of library, archive, and museum materials. Many overlap across institution type. Items are presented with their material name first, followed by a specific item name when applicable.

Visit [oclc/realm-project](http://oclc/realm-project) for project plans, test results, and new resources as they become available.

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